

REMARKS

I. Summary of the Examiner's Action

A. Claim Rejections

As set forth at paragraph 8 of the September 21 Office Action, claims 1 – 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

II. September 13, 2006 and December 20, 2006 Interview Summaries

In a telephonic interview that occurred on September 13, 2006, Applicants' Representative and the Examiner of Record discussed the outstanding rejections in the case and reached an agreement on how the claims may be amended to overcome the outstanding rejections.

In a later telephonic interview occurring on or about December 20, 2006 initiated by the Examiner after Applicants' Representative submitted a proposed response, the Examiner raised a new issue common to several of the claims. Applicants' representative proposed amending the claims to remove the issue but no agreement was reached.

III. Applicants' Response - Rejection of Claims 1 – 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Applicants have amended claims 1, 13, 18, 20, 29, 30, 31 and 33 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1 – 33 on this basis.

IV. Conclusion

The Applicants submit that in light of the foregoing amendments and remarks the application is now in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn and that the case be passed to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

December 27, 2006 David M. O'Neill (35,304)

Date

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